

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 and 28-30 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 3, 12, 13, 28 and 30 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Woo during the personal interview held July 6, 2006, are gratefully appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-22 and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Huston et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0007402) in view of David (U.S. Patent No. 6,801,902). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, neither David nor Huston, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an electronic information management system, and associated method, that includes feature extracting means, deciding means for deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted, and deleting means for deleting from the storing means via a deletion method specified by the client unnecessary electronic information, the deleting means at least one of deleting information that matches a predetermined condition and deleting the information after having checked the condition, as

recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 2, 3, 12, 13, 28 and 30. Support for this feature can be found in the specification at, for example, page 13, lines 7-16. Moreover, for example, the predetermined condition can be when a document includes a specific keyword that must be deleted, and the condition is whether the keyword is present in a given document.

Thus, the above-mentioned independent claims, and their dependent claims, are patentable over a combination of the applied references. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 and 28-30 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 13, 2006

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